

**City of LeClaire, Iowa**  
**Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, May 16, 2022 – 6:14 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers -325 Wisconsin St, LeClaire, IA**

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_ Blair: \_\_\_\_\_ Bloom: \_\_\_\_\_ Gravert: \_\_\_\_\_ Long: \_\_\_\_\_ Salvador: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bockenstedt: \_\_\_\_\_ Laserfiche: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Gerard called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 325 Wisconsin Street. Present: Mayor Dennis Gerard, Council Members Amy Blair, Bill Bloom, Sara Gravert, Barry Long, and Ryan Salvador, City Administrator Dennis Bockenstedt, City Clerk Tracy Northcutt, Police Chief Shane Thomas, Library Director Melita Tunnickliff, Parks & Recreation Director Greg Ludwig, Public Works Supervisor Mark Dale and City Engineer Leo Foley. Absent: None.

**Discussion Items:**

A. Employee Healthcare Renewal – 2022-2023

Dennis Bockenstedt, City Administrator, stated that staff has met with TrueNorth, the City's Employee Benefits Broker, to review proposals for healthcare premiums. The most advantageous proposal was from Aetna with a five percent increase in premiums with deductible and out-of-pocket max annual costs remaining the same as 2021-2022. Council does not object to renewing the employee healthcare plan with Aetna.

B. Closure of Recreation Center Weight Room

Greg Ludwig, Parks and Recreation Director, indicated that the Park and Recreation Board voted to recommend the closure of the weight room at the Recreation Center. The condition of the equipment, the lack of security and lack of funds to make improvements were cited as reasons for the recommendation. Discussion was had concerning the costs and desire to keep the weight room open were had. Council directed staff to keep the weight room open but remove or disable nonfunctioning equipment and bring back a proposal to be reviewed that includes repairs, security and new equipment.

C. City Center Plaza Project

Dennis Bockenstedt, City Administrator, Leo Foley, City Engineer and John Micka, Landscape Design Engineer, Veenstra & Kimm, gave an overview of the City Center Plaza design and project budget cost estimate. Discussion was held regarding adding additional shade, investigating grant opportunities and refining the budget cost estimate. Council supports the project concept and want more detailed costs and funding source information.

D. Tourism Board Recommendation of Appointments

Dennis Bockenstedt, City Administrator, gave an overview of the Tourism Board's recommendation to reappoint Emily Gwin for the Retail position and Carrie Stier for the Festival and Event position on the Tourism Board for full two-year terms. Council does not object to these recommendations.

E. Library Board Recommendation of Appointments

Karen Nelson, Library Board President, gave an overview of the Library Board's recommendation to appoint Linda Mitchell to fill the unexpired term of Becky Pilger to expire June 2026, Calla Parochetti to fill the full expired six-year term of Karen Nelson to expire June 2028 and Tom Kosticheck to fill the full expired six-year term of Mike Souhrada to expire June 2028. Council does not object to these recommendations.

F. Sewer Rate Increase

Dennis Bockenstedt, City Administrator, explained the proposal to increase the sewer rate fees to be effective July 1, 2022. Discussion was had regarding the need for annual increases to cover depreciation. Council does not object to these recommendations.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Long, seconded by Blair, to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

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**Dennis Gerard, Mayor**

**Attest:**

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**Tracy A. Northcutt, City Clerk**